

PATENTS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
Kriesel et al.)
Serial No.: 10/613,740)
Filed: July 3, 2003)
For: HOOFED ANIMAL PAD)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby voluntarily disclose the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents. References A-F were cited in a prior application relied upon by the above-identified application for an earlier filing date. The prior application relied upon is Application Serial No. 10/094,030, filed on March 7, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,588,511, issued July 8, 2003. It is specified in 37 CFR 1.98(d) that a "copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an information disclosure statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, provided the prior application is properly identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120." Therefore please review the parent case for references A-F.

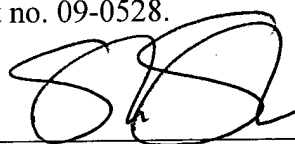
Applicants further reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed information should they be applied as references, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be enabling for the teachings they purport to offer. This statement further should not be

construed as the representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that the information cited herewith is material, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present Application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the information submitted herein. On the contrary, the Examiner is requested to conduct an independent and thorough review of the information, and to form independent opinions as to their significance.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return copies of the enclosed PTO-1449 and to indicate in the official file wrapper of the above-identified patent application that each item of the cited information has been considered.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to account no. 09-0528.

Date: 1/15/04


Steven L. Schmid
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 39,358

Customer No. 26158
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC
P.O. Box 7037
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037
(404) 962-7539 (Telephone)
(404) 870-8234 (Facsimile)

Docket No.: C228 1020.2

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

January 15, 2004
Cheryl West



Form PTO-1449

Attorney Docket No.
C228 1020.2Serial No.
10/613,740

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Kriesel et al.Filing Date
July 3, 2003

Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Item	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A	371,301	10/1887	Burhans	168	26	
	B	710,999	10/1902	Powers	168	26	
	C	757,473	04/1904	Lemon	168	26	
	D	3,747,684	07/1973	Wallen	168	26	
	E	4,513,825	04/1985	Murphy	168	12	
	F	5,509,484	04/1996	Landi et al.	168	14	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE:

DATE CONSIDERED: